



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

April 6, 2006

H.R. 518

Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Improvement Act of 2006

As ordered reported by the House Committee on Resources on March 29, 2006

SUMMARY

H.R. 518 would authorize additional funding for projects carried out under the Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Act through fiscal year 2010. The Secretary of the Interior would use that funding primarily to help finance research and conservation programs in North and South America.

Assuming appropriation of the authorized amounts, CBO estimates that implementing H.R. 518 would cost \$27 million over the 2006-2011 period. Enacting the bill would not affect direct spending or revenues. H.R. 518 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA) and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

ESTIMATED COST TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

The estimated budgetary impact of H.R. 518 is shown in the following table. The costs of this legislation fall within budget function 300 (natural resources and environment).

	By Fiscal Year, in Millions of Dollars					
	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION						
Spending Under Current Law for Neotropical Birds						
Budget Authority ^a	4	0	0	0	0	0
Estimated Outlays	2	1	*	0	0	0
Proposed Changes						
Authorization Level	1	5	6	7	8	0
Estimated Outlays	*	4	5	7	8	3
Spending Under H.R. 518 for Neotropical Birds						
Authorization Level ^a	5	5	6	7	8	0
Estimated Outlays	2	5	5	7	8	3

NOTE: * = less than \$500,000.

a. The 2006 level is the amount appropriated for that year for programs related to the conservation of certain migratory birds.

BASIS OF ESTIMATE

For this estimate, CBO assumes that H.R. 518 will be enacted during 2006 and that funds will be appropriated as specified in the bill.

H.R. 518 would authorize the appropriation of \$31 million over the 2006-2010 period for activities related to the research and conservation of certain species of migratory birds. For fiscal year 2006, the Congress has already provided \$4 million for such activities; therefore, CBO estimates that fully funding H.R. 518 would require the appropriation of an additional \$1 million in 2006 and \$26 million over the 2007-2010 period. Based on historical spending patterns for this program, CBO estimates that implementing H.R. 518 would increase federal spending by less than \$500,000 in 2006 and \$27 million over the 2006-2011 period, assuming appropriation of the specified amounts.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND PRIVATE-SECTOR IMPACT

H.R. 518 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in UMRA and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

PREVIOUS CBO ESTIMATE

On August 8, 2005, CBO transmitted a cost estimate for S. 1410, the Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Improvement Act of 2005, as ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works on July 20, 2005. Both bills authorize funding to support international conservation projects. Because H.R. 518 would authorize less funding than S. 1410, our estimate of spending under that bill is lower.

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